

## Update: Ownership Demarcation Point

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this document is to clarify the concept of ownership demarcation point. Since the introduction of Regulation 22/04 ownership demarcation has been an ongoing issue. Electrical Inspectors must know the demarcation point location in order to correctly apply the requirements of the Ontario Electrical Safety Code.

**DEFINITION:** The ownership demarcation point is defined as:

- (a) The point at which the distributor's ownership of a distribution system, including connection assets, ends at the customer, and
- (b) Is not located beyond,
  - (i) The first set of terminals located on or in any building, or
  - (ii) An electrical room or vault in a building where the electrical room is of tamperproof construction, bears a sign to indicate that it is an electrical room or vault and is accessible to authorized persons.

**CONTACTS:** The distributor has historical site-specific customer information and will know the ownership demarcation point location.

**SCENARIOS:** The location of the ownership demarcation point can be unique for each customer, however the following scenarios are typical.

Residential - Secondary Supply Services owned and maintained by the distributor

The ownership and demarcation point is typically located at:

- (i) The top of the customer's service entrance stack for overhead services
- (ii) The line side of the customer's meter base for underground services

Commercial and Industrial – Secondary Supply Services owned and maintained by the distributor

The ownership and demarcation point is located at:

- (iii) The top of the customer's service entrance stack for overhead services
- (iv) The line side of the customer's meter base for underground services or
- (v) The line side of the customer's junction box or vertical raceway

Customer Owned - Secondary Supply Services

The ownership demarcation point is located at:

- (vi) The secondary connection at the transformer or the service bus or at the property line.

Primary Supply Service Residential and Commercial Customers

The ownership demarcation point is located at:

- (vii) At the secondary terminals of the transformer, when the transformer is owned by the distributor
- (viii) At the supply terminals of the customer's primary disconnecting device when the transformer is owned by the customer

## Electrical Distribution Safety

After May 11, 2004, Ontario Regulation 22/04 requires that if a distributor intends to change the demarcation point or transfer the ownership of a distribution system to a person who is not a distributor then on completion of the transfer the system is subject to the Ontario Electrical Safety Code requirements. The distributor must inform the customer and ESA in writing of these changes. In addition, a report identifying any modifications that are required to meet the Ontario Electrical Safety Code must be provided to the customer and ESA.

If in the course of an inspector's duties, there is a requirement to identify the ownership demarcation point, the inspector should contact the distributor and ask that they provide a written confirmation of the ownership demarcation point. If a dispute arises between a customer and a utility in regards to the demarcation point, it is not the responsibility of the inspector to solve or mediate the dispute. The inspector will allow the customer and the distributor to reach a satisfactory resolution, and once informed of their decision, can then apply the applicable Ontario Electrical Safety Code rules.